



Governor Warner directed agencies serving Virginia's homeless population to represent Virginia at a Policy Academy on Chronic Homelessness. The academy is part of a national initiative to end chronic homelessness in 10 years.

Appointed state agency representatives are senior level executives with the ability to recommend, impact, and implement state-level policy changes. Other members include partner organizations that are impacted by the issue of homelessness.

The action plan, Virginia: A Common Wealth to End Homelessness, was approved by Governor Warner and was submitted for comment to the national Interagency Council on Homelessness in January 2004. Copies of the plan can be found at www.dhcd.virginia.gov under "Homeless Programs."

Sharing A Common Wealth to End Homelessness

VISION

An integrated, community-based system of individualized opportunities, services, and housing has ended homelessness in Virginia.

Priority 1: Affordable continuum of suitable and appropriate housing options

Priority 2: Accessible supportive services

Priority 3: Prevention initiatives that reduce homelessness

Priority 4: Sufficient financial resources

Priority 5: An understanding of chronic homelessness at all levels

A Common Wealth to End Homelessness represents the most comprehensive initiative to-date in combating chronic homelessness and ensuring coordinated services for Virginia's homeless or those at risk of becoming homeless.

Policy Academy Members: Virginia Inter-Agency Council on Homelessness

VA Department of Housing and Community Development
Virginia Housing Development Authority
VA Department of Medical Assistance Services
VA Department of Corrections
VA Department of Health
VA Department of Rehabilitative Services
Virginia Coalition for the Homeless
VA Employment Commission
Virginia Interagency Action Council for the Homeless
Virginia Job Corp Project
VA Department of Social Services
Virginia Supportive Housing
VA Department of Veterans Services
United States Veterans Administration
Virginia Housing Research Center
Individual who was chronically homeless
Homeward, Richmond Continuum of Care
VA Department of Juvenile Justice
Virginia Interfaith Center for Public Policy
Virginia Hospital and Healthcare Association
VA Department of Mental Health, Mental Retardation, and Substance Abuse Services